



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: McClung, G.L. III

Serial No: 09/375,451

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For: Improvements To
Business System

§
§ Art Unit: 2761
§
§ Examiner:
§
§ Atty Docket No: GLM III

PATENT

TC 2700 MAIL ROOM

MAY 25 2000

RECEIVED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please cancel claims 1 - 20 and enter new claims 21 - 37:

21. A method for guaranteeing a consumer a best price on an item purchased from a vendor in a first transaction at a first price, the method comprising recording the first price and information identifying the consumer, monitoring the sales price of the item for a predetermined time period after the first transaction, noting any price lower than the first price for the item during the predetermined time period, calculating a money-value difference between the first price and said any price lower than the first price, and refunding to the consumer an amount equal to the money-value difference, wherein the item is purchased via a host system and the host system records the first price and information identifying the customer; the host system conducts the monitoring, noting, and calculating steps; and the host system provides the refund to the consumer, and wherein the host system provides the refund by crediting an